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Iran Shows The Cold War Is Still Here

In the continuing debate over ratification of SALT II, proponents of that treaty

— notably members of President Jimmy Carter's administration — delight in warning that rejection will mean the destruction of detente and a return to the "cold war."



More realistic people — as opposed to the wishful thinkers who surround Mr. Carter — have contended all along that the cold war has never ceased. Perhaps it has in our delusions, but it has not insofar as the tactics and maneuvers of the Soviet Union are concerned.

Dramatic evidence of the continuation of the cold war by the Soviet Union was contained in Friday's editions of The Wall Street Journal.

That excellent national publication carried excerpts of Persian language broadcasts made by the Soviet Union to Iran. The broadcasts could only be described as inflammatory. And The Wall Street Journal also had some editorial comment on those broadcasts.

Editorially the newspaper noted that it had learned the U.S. State Department had filed a protest with Moscow.

"We were consumed by curiosity over what the Russians could do that would move even this State Department to protest," The Wall Street Journal commented.

Upon investigation the newspaper found that the Soviets were beaming their Persian language radio broadcasts to Iran with all manner of fuel to feed the fires of hatred against the United States.

The newspaper editorial concluded:

"This tells you a lot about detente as currently practiced. And Soviet behavior in this crisis tells you a lot about the larger strategic, diplomatic and military decisions that this country now faces."

It certainly does tell you a lot about detente as currently practiced, although it is doubtful that it will make any impression on Mr. Carter who has firmly established his reputation as the weakest president in the history of the republic.

Here is the United States facing a crisis of grave proportions. And the Soviet Union, with whom we are supposed to be enjoying the rewards of "detente," is doing its damndest to intensify the crisis, to further endanger our people in Iran, and multiply our problems.

Mr. Carter has bravely denounced the fanatics who control Iran as terrorists. Why does he not also denounce the Soviet Union in equally fervent tones? In aiding and abetting and encouraging terrorism in Iran they share whatever blame Mr. Carter wishes to direct at the Iranian terrorists.

But no. Mr. Carter is content to have some minor functionary at our State Department file a meek "protest" with the Kremlin and let it go at that.

Presumably Mr. Carter is gravely worried about eroding what he delights in calling "the spirit of detente."

As one who believes the cold war has never ended, or even diminished in Soviet eyes, the inflammatory actions by the Soviets do not surprise me. Their

principle objective is to keep us off balance, to add to our misery in every way possible, to weaken us wherever and whenever they can. And so from that point of view the inflammatory broadcasts to Iran are quite logical.

But the Carter administration would have us believe that the Soviets are — well, almost — our buddies. We frequently see published photographs of a beaming Secretary of State Cyrus Vance in company with an equally beaming Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. Much is written about

the close relations between Mr. Vance and Mr. Dobrynin, and how the latter uses a special entrance to our State Department.

Mr. Carter embraces Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and utters all manner of flowery and complimentary words about this bloody-handed tyrant.

You can fairly feel the spirit of detente, as uttered by Mr. Carter, ooze over you.

But detente is a sham and a fraud. The cold war continues to rage, even if we don't recognize it.

Within the past few days a former CIA analyst, David Sullivan, has been quoted as saying the Soviet Union deliberately deceived the United States during both the SALT I and SALT II negotiations. The deception served to enhance Soviet nuclear capabilities.

But Mr. Carter timidly wants us to ratify SALT II. He wants to continue to ship wheat, sophisticated electronic gear — and anything else the Soviets ask for — to the Soviet Union, on credit.

We are rewarded by deliberate Soviet efforts to worsen the crisis we face in Iran.

We can only speculate when Soviet contempt for the United States comes to the point where they will make a massive overt move to destroy us.